

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 OIC-02 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /089 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:SEPALMER,JR
APPROVED BY NEA/RA:SEPALMER,JR
AID/NE:
EUR/SE: REWING
NEA/RA:DRMORAN (DRAFT)
NEA/PAB:JPMULLIGAN
IO/OIC:LLATHAM

-----120021 220702Z /16

R 212229Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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FROM NEA/RA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CENTO, EAID, PK

SUBJECT: CENTO ECONOMIC: PAKISTAN CIVILIAN MICROWAVE ISSUE

REFS:CENTO EC/25/R1-R3

1. RICHTER OF AID/NE/TECH TELLS US HE GATHERED FROM
DSG(E) MARTIN THAT AT THE ESGE AND/OR THE ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE MEETING PAKISTAN IS LIKELY TO REITERATE ITS
INSISTANCE THAT THE \$500,000 WE CONDITIONALLY PLEDGED IN
1975 BE USED TOWARDS UPGRADING MICROWAVE SYSTEMS IN
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BALUCHISTAN. IN JUST-RECEIVED DEC. 9 LETTER TO PALMER,
MARTIN OPINES PAKS MAY HAVE IN MIND PROJECTS WE WOULD
CONSIDER MORE APPROPRIATE UNDER BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

2. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL OUR DECISION THAT AID FUNDS
COULD NOT BE PROPERLY USED FOR THIS MICROWAVE PROJECT,
WHICH IN ANY CASE WE DEEM ECONOMICALLY UNVIAABLE, BUT WERE

PREPARED TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE PROJECTS CONSONANT WITH AID GUIDELINES AND BENEFITTING AT LEAST TWO REGIONAL MEMBERS. GOP'S RESPONSE (BY EAD ADDITIONAL SECRETARY SAFRAZ KHAN MALIK) WAS THAT IT WOULD SEEK TO PERSUADE US OF MICROWAVE PROJECT'S ECONOMIC VIABILITY AND, FAILING THAT, WOULD COME UP WITH AN ALTERNATIVE. PAKS WERE NOT RECEPTIVE TO OUR SUGGESTION THAT FUNDS BE DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH RE RURAL POOR. WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER FROM GOP. WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID A STERILE REPETITION OF THE MARCH 1976 DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. FOR ANKARA. PLEASE SEEK MARTIN'S BEST CURRENT JUDGMENT ON HOW PAKS WILL PLAY THIS. IF THEY SEEM INTENT ON PRESSING FOR MICROWAVE PROJECT, MARTIN MIGHT CONVEY HIS ASSUMPTION THAT USG WILL NOT BE PERSUADED. WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT AS MUCH IN ADVANCE OF JAN. ESG(E) MEETING AS REASONABLY POSSIBLE.

4. FOR ISLAMABAD. IF ANKARA CONFIRMS GOP INTENT TO STAY IN MICROWAVE GROOVE, PLEASE REGISTER OUR HOPE THAT THIS ISSUE WILL NOT BE SUSTAINED. EVEN IF GOP WERE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT PROJECT COULD BECOME ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUSTAINING, WE COULD NOT UNDER AID GUIDELINES SUPPORT IT. THUS, IN INTERESTS OF GETTING ON WITH PRODUCTIVE CENTO ECONOMIC PROGRAM, AND OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, WE TRUST GOP WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PUT SOME OF ITS IMPRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT BRAINPOWER TO TASK OF DEVISING AN ACCEPTABLE PROGRAM. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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